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*Exchange of notes at Washington February 12 and March 4 and 11,
1915*

Entered into force March 11, 1915; operative May 1, 1915

*Revived (after World War II) March 12, 1948,¹ pursuant to article 44
of treaty of peace signed at Paris February 10, 1947²*

III Redmond 2705

The Secretary of State to the Italian Ambassador

No. 36

WASHINGTON, February 12, 1915

EXCELLENCY:

Referring to your embassy's note of the 2d of September, 1914, conveying certain assurances from the Royal Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce that citizens of the United States may now enjoy in the Kingdom of Italy, by virtue of Italian law, rights in regard to copyright similar to those granted by section 1 (e) of the copyright act of the United States of the 4th of March, 1909,³ including copyright controlling the parts of instruments serving to reproduce mechanically musical works, I have the honor to say that it seems advisable that the proclamation of the President of the United States and the Italian royal decree should be issued simultaneously, and the department therefore suggests that the 1st of March, 1915, be the day selected, if that day meets with the approval of the Italian Government.

The department will, therefore, recommend to the President the issue of the proclamation on that date, in view of the assurances contained in M. Borghetti's note above mentioned of the 2d of September, 1914.

The department will be glad to be informed by you, as soon as possible, whether the date, 1st of March next, is acceptable to your Government.

Accept, etc.

W. J. BRYAN

¹ *Department of State Bulletin*, Apr. 4, 1948, p. 455.

² TIAS 1648, *ante*, vol. 4, p. 325.

³ 35 Stat. 1075.

The Italian Ambassador to the Secretary of State

[TRANSLATION]

No. 620

WASHINGTON, *March 4, 1915*

M. LE SECRÉTAIRE D'ÉTAT:

The Government of His Majesty the King of Italy, my august Sovereign:

Considering that by virtue of the proclamation of the 9th of April, 1910,⁴ his Excellency the President of the United States, while recognizing the enjoyment by the citizens and subjects of the Kingdom of Italy of all the benefits of the law of the 4th of March, 1909, excluded, however, those provided for in article 1 (e) of the said law, declaring in regard thereto that the matter was still under consideration;

And bearing in mind that article 1 (e) of the said law exacts that its provisions, in so far as they guarantee the author's right for the reproduction and mechanical execution of musical works, shall not apply to works of foreign authors or composers unless the State or the nation, of which such author or composer is a citizen or subject, assures to the citizens of the United States similar rights, whether by means of treaties, conventions, or agreements, or by force of law;

Have instructed me to give to your Excellency a formal assurance that, by virtue of the issue of the aforesaid proclamation of the 9th of April, 1910, American citizens and subjects enjoy in the Kingdom, by virtue of article 44 of the law T. U. of the 19th of September, 1882, fully and absolutely, the author's rights for every form of reproduction of their works, including the reproduction and mechanical execution of musical works.

I have accordingly the honor to request that, on the basis of this declaration, his Excellency the President will be good enough to issue the necessary proclamation to the end that Italian subjects may be admitted to enjoy also the special benefits provided by the aforesaid article 1 (e) of the law of the 4th of March, 1909, the Italian Government on its part undertaking to recommend the publication of a royal decree sanctioning the foregoing declarations concerning the citizens and subjects of the United States.

In order that the date of the issue of the presidential proclamation may coincide with that of the royal decree, I have the honor to propose to your Excellency, in the name of the Government of the King, the date of 1st of May next.

Accept, etc.,

V. MACCHI DI CELLERE

⁴ 36 Stat. 2685.

The Secretary of State to the Italian Ambassador

No. 44

WASHINGTON, *March 11, 1915*

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 4th instant, in which you state that you are instructed by your Government to give the Government of the United States formal assurance that, by virtue of the issue of the proclamation of the 9th April, 1910, by the President of the United States, American citizens enjoy in the Kingdom of Italy, by virtue of article 44 of the Law T. U. of the 19th of September, 1882, full and absolute copyright for any form of reproduction of their works, including the reproduction and mechanical execution of musical works. You therefore ask that the President will be good enough to issue the requisite proclamation to the end that Italian subjects be admitted to enjoy the special benefits provided by article 1 (c) of the act of the 4th of March, 1909, your Government on its part undertaking to issue a royal decree sanctioning the declaration made above in your note concerning citizens of the United States.

You suggest that the royal decree and the President's proclamation be issued on the 1st of May, 1915,⁵ and in order that the dates of issue may coincide.

I have the honor to say in reply that the department will lay before the President the necessary proclamation for signature on the 1st of May, 1915.

Accept, etc.

W. J. BRYAN

⁵ 39 Stat. 1725.